

Management Area 9.2 - Study Wild and Scenic Rivers

Map:

Shaded area depicts Management Area 9.2. There are no Management Area 9.2 areas on the Huron National Forest.

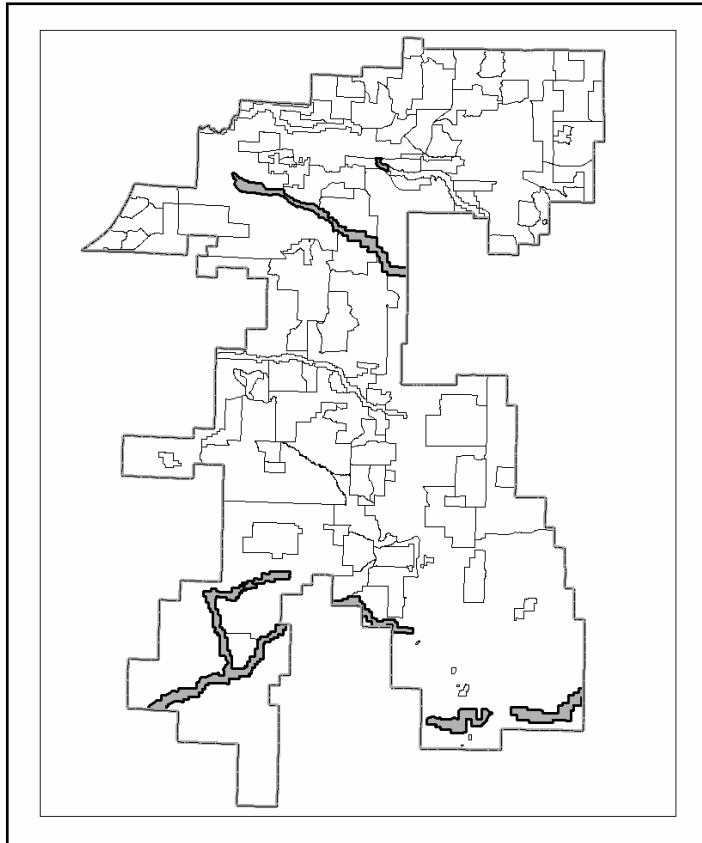


Figure III-23. Management Area 9.2 on the Manistee National Forest.

Purpose:

Lands in holding until studies and environmental documentation for designation are completed. Management activities provide for Wild and Scenic River attributes and values.

Landscape Description:

This prescription area contains approximately 1 percent of all National Forest System lands on the Huron-Manistee National Forests.

Study Wild and Scenic Rivers are listed in Table III-16.

Table III-16. Study Wild and Scenic Rivers on the Huron-Manistee National Forests.

River	Status	Description	Location
White River	Study	74.5 miles of the White River were identified in the Michigan Scenic Rivers Act (P.L. 102-249) for potential inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River system.	Manistee National Forest
Little Manistee River	Study	42 miles of the Little Manistee River were identified in the Michigan Scenic Rivers Act (P.L. 102-249) for potential inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River system.	Manistee National Forest
Muskegon River	Suitability to be determined	14 miles were identified as eligible in the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Huron-Manistee National Forests' Land and Resource Management Plan (1986).	Manistee National Forest
Little Muskegon River	Suitability to be determined	25 miles were identified as eligible in the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Huron-Manistee National Forests' Land and Resource Management Plan (1986).	Manistee National Forest
Pine River Addition	Suitability to be determined	The lands between the Pine River National Scenic River's western boundary to M-55.	Manistee National Forest

Table III-17 displays emphasis areas within Management Area 9.2. Manage the wildlife emphasis area with the following objectives:

Table III-17. Emphasis Areas Within Management Area 9.2.

Wildlife Emphasis Area	Approximate Acres	Location	Objectives
Croton Prairie	2,200	Manistee National Forest (Little Muskegon River)	<p>Identify and manage habitats for other wildlife, for example, winter deer range, in these areas on National Forest lands so long as they do not conflict with the management and protection of potential eagle habitat elements.</p> <p>Develop cooperative efforts with private landowners that will encourage landowners to request the advice of State and Federal biologists on any activities that may affect the nesting territory.</p>

Goals and Objectives and Desired Future Condition:

Goals and Objectives:

- Maintain the unique characteristics of each river for which they were identified.
- Complete the evaluation of these rivers.

Desired Future Condition:

Complete the evaluation of the study rivers—White and Little Manistee Rivers—and suitability evaluation of the Muskegon River, Little Muskegon River and Pine River Addition.

There are approximately 7,600 acres of designated old growth in this management area.

Standards and Guidelines:**2300 RECREATION, WILDERNESS AND RELATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

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| I | Camping within Wild and Scenic Study River corridors is permitted at designated sites. | G |
| A | The following apply to the Little Muskegon River, Little Manistee, and the Pine River Addition (scenic classification): | |
| 1 | All water supply dams and major diversions are prohibited. | S |
| 2 | No development of hydroelectric power facilities will be allowed. | S |
| 3 | Flood control dams and levees will be prohibited. | S |
| 4 | No new stream crossings. Roads may occasionally be built within the corridor if they protect the river's outstandingly remarkable values and are consistent with other Standards and Guidelines. | G |
| 5 | New transmission lines, gas lines, water lines, etc. are discouraged. Where no reasonable alternative exist, additional or new facilities should be restricted to existing rights-of-way. Where new rights-of-way are indicated, the scenic, recreational and fish and wildlife values must be evaluated in the selection of the site. | G |
| B | The following apply to the Muskegon River and White River—including both the North and South Branches (recreational classification): | |
| 1 | Existing low dams, diversion works, riprap and other minor structures are allowed provided the waterway remains generally natural and riverine in appearance. New structures would not be permitted except for possibly a lamprey control device following an environmental analysis. | G |
| 2 | No development of hydroelectric power facilities is allowed. | G |
| 3 | New structures will not be permitted. | G |
| 4 | No new bridges. Roads may be built within the corridor if they protect the rivers' scenic qualities and are consistent with other Standards and Guidelines. | G |
| 5 | Existing developments will be maintained. Recreation | G |

facilities may be constructed, provided the recreation qualities of the river are maintained.

- 6 New transmission lines, gas lines, water lines, etc. are discouraged. Where no reasonable alternative exists, additional or new facilities should be restricted to existing rights-of-way. Where new rights-of-way are indicated, the scenic, recreational and fish and wildlife values must be evaluated in the selection of the site. G
- 7 Motorized travel routes will not detract from the recreational values for which the river may be designated. G

2600 WILDLIFE, FISH AND SENSITIVE PLANT HABITAT MANAGEMENT

I Wildlife Emphasis Areas

A Croton Prairie

- 1 Establish and maintain protective buffer zones around bald eagle nests. G
- 2 Avoid and discourage disturbances during critical periods. G
- 3 Identify areas of potential nest sites and protect these from alteration or development on National Forest System lands and private lands, where possible. G

- II New motorized trails will not be constructed in cedar swamps, hardwood hardwood conifer swamps and subirrigated forests unless there are no other reasonable routes. G

2700 SPECIAL USES MANAGEMENT

- I Decision on special uses involving National Forest System lands will be made on an individual basis. G
- II Do not allow developed organizational camps. G

2800 MINERALS AND GEOLOGY

- I Federal oil and gas leases within the corridors of rivers designated for Study under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act will contain a no-surface-occupancy stipulation. S

5100 FIRE MANAGEMENT

I Suppression

- A Minimize use of tractor plows, retardant, constructed helispots and wheeled vehicles. G